or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

X is O or F_2;

n is 1;

m is 1;

A2 Cont

p is 0 or 1;

wherein the stereochemistry at carbon position 1 is R or S;

D is (C_1-C_6)-straight or branched alkyl, (C_2-C_6)-straight or branched alkenyl, (C_5-C_7)-cycloalkyl or (C_5-C_7)-cycloalkenyl substituted with (C_1-C_4)-straight or branched alkyl or (C_2-C_4)-straight or branched alkenyl, O-(C_1-C_4)-straight or branched alkyl, O-(C_2-C_4)-straight or branched alkenyl, 2-indolyl, 3-indolyl, ((C_1-C_4)-alkyl or (C_2-C_4)-alkenyl)-Ar or Ar;

Ar is a carbocyclic aromatic group selected from the group consisiting of phenyl, 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, indenyl, azulenyl, fluorenyl, and anthracenyl; or a heterocyclic aromatic group selected from the group consisting of 2-furyl, 3-furyl, 2-thienyl, 3-thienyl, 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, pyrrolyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, isoxazolyl, isothiazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,3-triazolyl, 1,3,4-thiadiazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, 1,3,5-triazinyl, 1,3,5-trithianyl, indolizinyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, 3H-indolyl, indolinyl, benzo[b]furanyl, benzo[b]thiophenyl, 1H-indazolyl, benzimidazolyl, benzthiazolyl, purinyl, 4H-quinolizinyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, cinnolinyl,

phthalazinyl, quinazolinyl, quinoxalinyl, 1,8-naphthyridinyl, pteridinyl, carbazolyl, acridinyl, phenazinyl, phenothiazinyl, and phenoxazinyl;

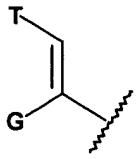
Ar may contain one to three substituents which are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, hydroxymethyl, nitro, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, (C_1-C_6)-straight or branched alkyl, (C_2-C_6)-straight or branched alkenyl, O-((C_1-C_4)-straight or branched alkyl), O-benzyl, O-phenyl, 1,2-methylenedioxy, amino, carboxyl, N-((C_1-C_5)-straight or branched alkyl or (C_2-C_5)-straight or branched alkenyl) carboxamides, N,N-di-((C_1-C_5)-straight or branched alkyl or (C_2-C_5)-straight or branched alkenyl) carboxamides, N-morpholinecarboxamide, N-benzylcarboxamide, N-thiomorpholinocarboxamide, N-picolinoylcarboxamide, O-W, CH_2-$(CH_2)_q$-W, O-$(CH_2)_q$-W, $(CH_2)_q$-O-W, and CH=CH-W;

A2 cont

W is 4-methoxyphenyl, 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, pyrazyl, quinolyl, 3,5-dimethylisoxazoyl, isoxazoyl, 2-methylthiazoyl, thiazoyl, 2-thienyl, 3-thienyl, or pyrimidyl; q is 0-2;

Q and A are independently hydrogen, Ar, (C_1-C_{10})-straight or branched alkyl, (C_2-C_{10})-straight or branched alkenyl or alkynyl, (C_5-C_7)-cycloalkyl substituted (C_1-C_6)-straight or branched alkyl, (C_2-C_6)-straight or branched alkenyl or alkynyl, (C_5-C_7)-cycloalkenyl substituted (C_1-C_6)-straight or branched alkyl, (C_2-C_6)-straight or branched alkenyl or alkynyl, or Ar-substituted (C_1-C_6)-straight or branched alkyl, (C_2-C_6)-straight or branched alkenyl or alkynyl wherein, in each case, any one of the CH_2 groups of said alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl chains may be optionally replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of O, S, SO, SO_2, N, and NR, wherein R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C_1-C_4)-straight or branched alkyl, (C_2-C_4)-straight or branched alkenyl or alkynyl, and (C_1-C_4)-bridging alkyl wherein a bridge is formed between the

nitrogen and a carbon atom of said heteroatom-containing chain to form a ring, and wherein said ring is optionally fused to an Ar group; or



;

G is hydrogen, (C_1-C_6)-straight or branched alkyl or (C_2-C_6)-straight or branched alkenyl or alkynyl; and

A2 Cont

T is Ar or substituted 5-7 membered cycloalkyl with substituents at positions 3 and 4 which are independently selected from the group consisting of oxo, hydrogen, hydroxyl, O-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, or O-(C_2-C_4)-alkenyl.

2. (Amended) A compound of claim 1 wherein:

the stereochemistry at carbon 1 is S;

m is 1;

n is 1;

p is 1;

X is O or F_2;

D is 3, 4, 5-trimethoxyphenyl or t-pentyl;

Q and A are independently hydrogen; 2, 3, or 4-pyridyl; or phenyl-substituted (C_1-C_6)-straight or branched chain alkyl, wherein phenyl is optionally substituted with one to three substituants independently selected from (C_1-C_6) alkyl, O-(C_1-C_6) alkyl, carboxyl and trifluoromethyl, wherein said alkyl is straight or branched.

7. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises as an active ingredient an amount of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, effective for stimulating neurite growth in nerve cells, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, excipients or diluents thereof.

A3

8. (Amended) A method for stimulating neurite growth in nerve cells comprising the step of contacting said nerve cells with a composition comprising a neurotrophic amount of a compound with affinity for an FK506 binding protein as claimed in any one of claims 1-4.

9. (Amended) A method for stimulating neurite growth in nerve cells comprising the step of contacting said nerve cells with a composition comprising a neurotrophic amount of a compound with affinity for FKBP12 as claimed in any one of claims 1-4.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Rejection Under 35 USC § 112, Second Paragraph

In claim 1 the proper Markush terminology has been introduced, namely, "...or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof." Also, the use of square brackets has been changed to round brackets.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for pointing this out and now believes the rejection is obviated.